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May 13, 2021 Agenda Item: 2.d.ii

To: Executive Committee, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

From: Guangyu Wang, Chief Administrative Director

Re: Consideration of Adoption of Recommendations regarding Safe

Clean Water Program Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Stormwater Investment

Plans within the Santa Monica Bay Watershed

## **Action Requested of the Executive Committee**

Schedule for the June 17, 2021 Governing Board meeting the consideration of adoption of recommendations regarding the Los Angeles County Safe Clean Water Program (SCW Program) Fiscal Year 2021-2022 (FY21-22) Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) within the Santa Monica Bay watershed.

## **Background**

Implementation of the SCW Program is a key action in the <u>Action Plan</u> of the Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program's (NEP) Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP Action Plan). The SCW Program was established by the passage of Measure W in 2018 to provide local, dedicated funding to increase local water supply, improve water quality, and protect public health.

Fifty percent of SCW Program's funds are allocated to its Regional Program for stormwater projects and programs at the watershed level. This portion of funding is distributed among and programmed by nine Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs), three of which lie completely or partially in the Santa Monica Bay watershed: The North Santa Monica Bay, Central Santa Monica Bay, and South Santa Monica Bay WASCs. The WASCs review proposals and develop SIPs, which are annual five-year plans that recommend funding allocations for projects and programs in each watershed area. The SCW Program's Regional Oversight Committee reviews each SIP and recommends to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board of Supervisors) whether or not each SIP should be approved.

At its June 18, 2020 meeting, the Governing Board adopted Resolution 20-04 regarding recommendations for SIPs in the Santa Monica Bay watershed for the first round of SCW Program funding (FY20-21). SIPs for the second round of funding (FY21-22) are anticipated to be developed by late May 2021 and the Board of Supervisors' consideration of approval is anticipated in July 2021.



The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission's mission is to restore and enhance Santa Monica Bay through actions and partnerships that improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resources, mitigate the impacts of climate change and sea level rise, and protect Santa Monica Bay's benefits and values.

Consistent with the approach used for the SCW Program's first round of funding, Staff will review the FY21-22 SIPs in the Santa Monica Bay watershed and draft a Governing Board resolution that includes the following:

- Recommendations based on whether the FY21-22 SIPs in the Santa Monica Bay watershed are anticipated to further the implementation of the CCMP Action Plan, and
- Direction for Staff to convey the resolution to the Board of Supervisors and various SCW Program committees (e.g., WASCs, Regional Oversight Committee).

Staff is also coordinating with SCW Program staff for supporting information on the FY21-22 SIPs in the Santa Monica Bay watershed, such as estimated annual funds, the projects and programs included in each SIP, and identification of projects that benefit disadvantaged communities. SCW Program staff is also available to present this information at the June 17, 2021 Governing Board meeting.

## Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends the Executive Committee schedule for the June 17, 2021 Governing Board meeting the consideration of adoption of recommendations regarding SCW Program FY21-22 SIPs in the Santa Monica Bay watershed. Scheduling this item for the June 17, 2021 Governing Board meeting is necessary to convey any recommendations to the Board of Supervisors prior to their consideration of approval.